

ALBERTA Native News

Handicapped Child Returned To Natural Parents

by Sy Sims

Quentin Watchmaker, the seven-year-old child who was removed from his foster home after police had been notified the youth was "living in a cage", has gone home to live with his natural parents.

Quentin, who has a mental handicap, was discovered last October by a Cold Lake woman visiting the house of Jacques and Evelyn Lord. A short time later, the boy was removed from the house and placed in another foster care home by the Department of Social Services.

After talking with Quentin's natural parents, band social workers, and the Department of Social Services, Kehewin Chief Gordon Gadwa gave

his blessing for the boy to return home, where his natural parents can now give him the special care he needs.

Quentin and his family will be assisted by several reserve social workers and a home-maker, who together will teach the family how to cope with their son's special needs.

There is also word the band council is milling around the idea of setting up a special class for Quentin to attend at the Kehewin School. Currently, there are several other handicapped children on the reserve who could also benefit from such a move.

Quentin did attend a special class in Bonnyville previously, and it's believed the council wants to have his education continued there until a local classroom can be obtained.



Opposition Calls For More Action

by Hy Chapparel

"It's clear that economic and social improvements for Alberta's Aboriginal peoples are among the last priorities on the Getty government agenda. A government which offers new hope for Natives is long overdue," said Ray Martin, NDP opposition leader.

At a recent new conference, Martin was joined by Leo Piquette, NDP candidate for Athabasca - Lac La Biche.

"A recent demographic study by the Native Affairs secretariat showed that the unemployment rates for rural Natives were nearly four times higher than those of rural non-Natives, and, according to the 1981 census, only one-quarter of Alberta Natives under 65 were employed. Any government which ignores data like that is either heartless, or has its priorities

quite mixed up," said Martin.

"Special initiatives and affirmative action programs are clearly in order for the Aboriginal peoples of Alberta," he added.

Piquette noted a comprehensive set of proposals for Indian and Metis people were developed at a recent convention of the NDP in Calgary. If implemented, it would improve Native economic and social prospects, he said.

"Among other things, our convention supported Indian self-government rights, legislative protection for Metis hunting and fishing rights, Metis control over membership rolls on settlements, and adequate protection for social services administered directly by the Aboriginal peoples," Piquette said.

Piquette also remarked that by emphasizing autonomy and restoration of tradi-

tional rights, "New Democrats are suggesting that self-reliant Native groups can best determine their own economic future".

Martin said that the record of the Alberta government to date on Native concerns had been "paternalistic, intrusive and insensitive. One need only look at the appalling situation at Lubicon Lake, or the 13-year foot-dragging on settlement of the Metis mineral rights court case for proof of the Tory attitude to Native people".

The New Democrats concluded by calling on the Getty Conservatives to take a number of concrete measures to signal a new approach to Native Affairs, and to restore trust.

1) Allow the Metis Settlements' mineral rights case to be settled one way or another by ceasing procedural foot-dragging.
2) Accept a previous federal government

proposal that a 25-square-mile plot of land in the Lubicon Lake area be turned over to the Lubicon Band as a sign of good faith.

3) Cease prosecution of Metis and Indian hunters, trappers and fishermen who are merely pursuing their traditional way of life. Restore legal rights to this form of livelihood.

4) Implement affirmative action programs for Aboriginal peoples on major resource projects similar to those of the Manitoba New Democratic government on the Limestone Power project.

"These initial steps would take us a long way towards an improvement in economic and social prospects for our original peoples," Martin said.



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Year

Letter

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Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: American
Ice-breaker in
Arctic Straits



The vital question that needs to be asked regarding the bold trip of the American ice-breaker through the Arctic Straits is: Whose sovereignty was violated? There's a very important dimension to all of this which the media have not touched upon — the fact that much of the vast frozen north country is under Inuit title, not that of the Government of Canada. The Inuit have been in possession of the lands and water in question for tens of thousands of years and, so far, they have not relinquished their aboriginal interest in it. Unlike Indian Nations to the south, they have entered into no treaty with the U.K. or Canada.

So, in a face-saving effort, the Canadian Department of Transport is considering pressing charges against Ross Peden, a

bush pilot, who flew militant Council of Canadians 'reps' to the ice-breaker so they could let a Canadian flag flutter harmlessly to the deck of the alien ship. It remains a mystery as to why a Canadian flag was dropped. If anyone had the right to protest the naval incursion, it should have been the Inuit Nation, against the U.S.A. and Canada. The land, water and air space are all Inuit, and this is borne out in U.N. covenants, particularly one on Civil and Political Rights (1976), endorsed by Canada.

Casual readers may frown about this revelation. They need not. In 1973 the Supreme Court of Canada made a slightly ambiguous split decision — the Nishga case, which led to the recognition of aboriginal title in Canada. Sections 25 and 35

in the Constitution Act (1982) reaffirm the aboriginal rights of the Indians, Metis and Inuit. First Ministers Conference on Aboriginal rights, held in 1983, 84 and 85 have been inconclusive in identifying and defining aboriginal rights, mainly because the leaders of Canada — the P.M. and premiers, are unwilling to give up political control over the Inuit lands on which they claim to have "homesteaded." Intriguing political games are best played about aboriginal title, and the federal policy in this regard can best be described as 'wishy-washy' — wishing the indigenous peoples would go away (somewhere), or washing one's hands of the vexatious problem! It should be said beyond any question of doubt, that Inuit lands are sovereign, not legally in

any other nation's hands, nor under a U.N. protectorate, which might not be such a bad idea.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the U.S.A. should appropriately be less arrogant about cruising through far northern ice packs, prone to disregard Inuit sovereignty, even though they failed to admit to that reality. Similar interventionist attitudes have prevailed in regard to cruise missile testing and the latest S.D.I. adventure. Regrettably, Americans aren't very familiar with geography north of the 49th parallel. An American 'continental energy policy advocate' once referred to the 'islands north of Canada.' The Inuit lands — or Soviet lands?

It was fitting that an Inuit person joined the Council of Canadians party that demonstrated their political will while airborne. After all, we should try to remain on good terms with our sovereign Inuit neighbours out on the tundra.

Yours sincerely,
Roy L. Piepenburg

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Lubicon Lake Band Gets \$1.5 Million "Gift"

by Sy Sims

The Lubicon Lake Indian Band has been given a "gift" of \$1.5 million to help defray legal costs in their land claims battle with the Alberta government.

David Crombie, Federal Indian Affairs minister, said the

money was needed to sustain the Lubicon lake fight with the province for 64 square kilometres it occupies in northern Alberta.

Crombie said the ideas of fairness and social justice "demand we resolve the grievances of the Lubicon Lake Band. I believe this payment will assist in achieving that goal".

Crombie also noted the extra funds will "meet the costs the band has incurred in putting forward its grievance over the past five years". The minister acknowledged that in the event of a settlement, the provincial government will still retain its liability to the band.

In recent months, the province has demanded the band

drop its legal action against them, so that government officials can make a land claim offer in good faith, and without automatic legal interference hanging over their decisions.

Alberta Native Affairs minister Milt Pahl said he was quite pleased with the announcement. "It shows the federal government is indeed taking steps in good faith," he added.

Pahl disregarded all statements that suggested Crombie's move has merely a kick in the behind to Alberta. The fact remains, however, that Alberta constantly insisted a land claim settlement could only come about after legal action was dropped.

Harvey Goldberg, a close aide of Crombie's, indicated Ottawa and Edmonton had no consultations on the pay-out to the Lubicon band. But Goldberg did remark that Alberta "was aware of our intention, and never voiced any objection to it. It's not the war-chest they (the band) can use in the

future. It's not money they can use for future litigation".

Goldberg said the money is "a gift without liability" for the band, which had received earlier loan guarantees by the Grand Cree Council of Quebec.

In the meantime, Lubicon lawyer Ken Staroszk said the band will review its earlier decision to sue Crombie for more than \$2 million to pay federal and provincial court costs. But he remained adamant the band will go full steam ahead in its litigation with Alberta over land claim and aboriginal rights.

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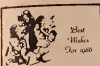
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Trappers Federation Gaining Strength

by Hy Chapparel

Three Native organizations held a high-level meeting in Edmonton last month to formulate plans to rescue the troubled fur industry.

Representatives from the Indian Association of Alberta (IAA), the Metis Association of Alberta (MAA), and the Aboriginal Trappers Federation of Canada (ATFC) have also been attempting to gain support from other Native organizations and individuals for the past several months.

Executive Director of the ATFC, Bob Stevenson, said Natives across Canada want to educate the general public about the fur industry. "We're not trying to destroy nature, but live in harmony with it".

Stevenson is strongly opposed by a variety of environmental and

conservation groups bent on discouraging, and eventually wiping out the harvesting and marketing of wild animal pelts and other animal-related products. Sometimes referred to as anti-vivisectionists, these groups are now based in dozens of countries around the world, and their push to influence government policy has been at least partially successful.

Several years ago, environmentalists convinced the European Parliament to ban seal-skin pelts. And that move is really beginning to make an impact on Canadian Native hunters and trappers.

The Trappers Federation is convinced such developments present a serious threat to the cultural, spiritual and economic health of Native peoples and communities.

Stevenson said recognition of support for the federation is beginning to grow. "Right now, we have members across Canada, and ike

the MAA, they receive information based on what our federation does the world over," he explained.

One of the brochures distributed by the federation states: "Our people do not kill our animal brothers and sisters for sport or pleasure; all life is sacred to us. If we are hungry we kill an animal, bird or fish to eat, and we thank the Great Spirit who sent

it. We kill only what we need, wasting nothing. Only thoughtless ones boast of killing, and only cowards lack consideration for the life and feelings of all creatures".

In the late spring of 1985, Stevenson and three Native models flew to Frankfurt, Germany, to gain the support of European furriers, and to make contact for possible future markets.

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Pension Boost For Natives

by Jim Crow

Native women in Alberta between the ages of 55 and 64 now have the same pension rights as non-Natives.

Until recently, Native women here had been receiving an average of \$140 a month less on their provincial widow pension cheques because of a mix-up in

the eligibility rules.

Social Services Minister Dr. Neil Webber said new legislation to the pension act will comply with new federal pension regulations.

Under the old rules, federal welfare payments to status Natives were considered part of the person's income when they were applying for the widow pension. Non-Natives collecting provincial welfare didn't have that amount counted against their pension cheques.

A spokesman in

Webber's office said he had no idea how many Native women the change would affect, but noted they'll receive an average \$140 a month hike in payments to a maximum of \$695.

Senior Citizens have been granted a pension boost as well, with the maximum provincial contribution rising to

\$95 a month.

Webber also announced a 50 cent-a-month hike in family allowance cheques under Ottawa's new partially de-indexed plan, changing the rate of payments to \$25 a month for children under seven, all the way to \$45.50 a month for children either 16 or 17 years old.

SCC Grant Big Boost To Native Business

by Jim Crow

Settlement Sooniyaw Corporation has received initial approval for the establishment of a new Metis Settlements' financial insti-

tution. This new body, known as the Settlement Investment Corporation, will receive a non-repayable grant of \$4.2 million from the Native Economic Development Program.

SSC president Walter Anderson said the new corporation would be strictly a non-political institution "designed to assist the Settlements in small farm loans and businesses".

SSC was founded in 1980 by the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlement Associations to establish a cornerstone financial reserve upon which the settlements could grow. The SCC's mandate is

to offer a wide range of economic development services on behalf of Metis settlers.

SSC general manager, Muriel Stanley-Venne, said she was pleased with the NEDP's response because the benefits will "directly affect the Metis by breaking the financial barrier that has consistently hampered the growth of Metis business."

Anderson and Venne expressed deep appreciation to the SCC's board of directors, as well as the Settlement Association for their hard work and support throughout the last year.

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The Director will be appointed for a five year term with the possibility of renewal for an additional five years. In addition the Director will be appointed to a tenurable academic position at a rank and salary commensurate with education and experience. The academic appointment may be either wholly within the School of Native Studies or on a joint basis with another academic unit.

The School of Native Studies is charged with developing an undergraduate program with a specialization in native studies. It is also expected that courses offered by the School will be taken by students in several other programs. (Support services for native students are the responsibility of the Office of Native Student Services which reports to the Dean of Students.) The Director of the School of Native Studies will report directly to the Vice President (Academic).

The deadline for applications or nominations is 14 February, 1986. Applications should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae and the names of three references. Appointment to be made 1 July, 1986, or on a suitable date to be negotiated.

Applications, nominations or requests for further information should be directed to:



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CYI Land Claims Agenda Almost Ready

by Sy Sims

Over the past few months, the Council for Yukon Indians (CYI), has been working out a very precise memorandum of understanding with the Yukon and Federal governments that will set the terms for re-starting land claim negotiations.

The previous General Assembly of the CYI instructed its negotiators to come up with a new version of the memorandum.

This marks the fifth time the memorandum has been re-written since it was first requested by the federal government several years ago.

Why so many changes? Some of the language of the memorandum has been too complicated to interpret. And some points have strayed wildly from clear objectives.

The parties have come together many times to focus on the purpose of the memorandum, and now it finally appears all three have agreed on the direction and function of the document.

Although it has been reported many times by the media that an agreement had in fact been signed, CYI officials point out that the memorandum of understanding has only been initiated by the three negotiators; Vic Mitander of the CYI, Barry Stewart of the Yukon Territorial Government, and Peter Fisher of the Federal Government.

Final signings should come, however, if the memorandum is approved by the board of directors for the Council of Yukon Indians, the Yukon Government, and David Crombie, the minister of Indian Affairs.

Once the memorandum has been accepted, the negotiators will meet again to develop a schedule based on the land claims criteria.

Suspense Mounts Over Haida Issue

by Gerry Garcia

Even though no arrests have been made in more than a month, there are still tense relations between the Haida Indians and the province of British Columbia over the Lyell Island logging issue.

No one knows for sure what will happen

when the workers of Western Forest Products (WFP) return to the island to commence logging in January.

Currently, Indian Affairs Minister David Crombie is meeting with Haida Band members in an attempt to resolve the logging stalemate. The Haida believe Lyell Island is a sacred and holy site, and are fighting WFP and the provincial government to keep the island just as it is.

Crombie told reporters last month that the situation on Lyell Island should be "resolved as soon as possible".

The logging issue on the island became national news when Svend Robinson, a flamboyantly insipid MP from Burnaby, B.C., played a role in the November 15 blockade. He refused to apologize for his actions, and was subsequently fined \$750.

Robinson also promised never to set foot on the island as long as the dispute remained unresolved.

The next move could be determined by the

results of a tripartite discussion among provincial, federal and Haida officials. Expectations are high a solution will be found within a month or two.

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Native Businesses To Be Showcased in Trade Fair

by Sy Sims

Aboriginal business leaders in Toronto recently announced that a unique and impressive business conference and international trade show will be staged at the Metro Convention Centre in Toronto, in late June, 1986.

Roy Louis of Hobema, chairman of the newly-formed Native Business Summit Foundation of Canada, said the summit is

designed "to put Native businesses on the map". He also remarked that Native business now has the potential to operate internationally.

Entitled the "Native Business Summit", the trade show is expected to showcase more than 100 different exhibitors in tourism, manufacturing, financial services, business services, and resource development. The five-day event could draw more than 1,500 non-Native

and Native business people with an advertising and marketing campaign directed at the Canadian, U.S. and European buyers.

The summit will feature four conferences that will bring together Native and non-Native business and government leaders to explore new markets and opportunities.

Federal and provincial government officials, and business experts from a variety of countries are expected to participate. Native business participants include executives from major Native corporations, small business owners, community leaders, and officials from Aboriginal organizations.

Louis remarked that "creating new attitudes and a new awareness among the non-Native community and our own is the biggest challenge. The summit is being held in the financial capital of Canada, and that's a good start".

Summit chairman Tony Belcourt, a Metis businessman from

Ottawa, said both the federal Cabinet and the provinces fully support the trade show concept. But Liberal MP Keith Penner, a Native Affairs critic, said the money to put on the show, estimated at \$2 million, would be better spent in Native community developments.

"Indian communities desperately need those dollars. This trade show will do nothing to benefit communities that do not even have such basic services as sewage systems or water supplies," said Penner.

Outlook Is Bright

Despite the rhetoric, it's expected some 50 large-scale resource development projects will impact directly on Native communities in the next decade. Many projects will be in the petroleum industry, while others involve areas such as hydro electricity, mining, water control and logging sectors.

In Alberta alone, there are at least 22 reserves that presently have significant oil and gas exploration and production facilities.

As the size and scope of the developments increase, Native leaders obviously want more control of the projects, and more jobs for their people. The Native Business Summit will most certainly focus on the prospects of Native development corporations.

A housing and real estate conference will also be staged at the summit, detailing new opportunities in the field, as well as major obstacles to future developments.

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Schools Could Benefit From Aboriginal Insights

by Sy Sims

Comic books in the classroom?

Sound alright to Ken Lee, a high school principal from St. Catherine's, Ontario, who firmly believes comics, films, and music can be the best teaching aides for children who have trouble learning.

Speaking at the Atlantic Conference on Learning Disabilities,

Lee said teaching methods must be tailored to the needs of children who are either unable or unwilling to cope with blackboards and reading.

"Each child is a walking opportunity to come to grips with their particular strengths," he said.

Aboriginal peoples of North America and Australia, said Lee, are visually oriented and use the brain's

right side instead of the left, which is less emotional and controls speech.

Lee said Aboriginal peoples used visual cues to survive in the wilderness. He explained that visually oriented people tend to prefer math, art and music — a function of the brain's right hemisphere — which is spatially oriented and responsive to visual stimulus.

"If they're in that hemisphere, let's use that side to get what we want from these students, and get at those skills," said Lee.

Despite being a graduate of Cambridge University, a renowned British school, Lee said he never scored high marks or excelled in any particular subject. He considers himself visually oriented, and believes many others have the same bent.



"FORT ROAD"

Governments, Native To Re-Think Education Policies

by Jim Crow

At the request of the B.C. Indian Education Task Force and other Indian groups, the minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, David Crombie, has agreed to open up the federal-provincial Indian education agreement for discussion among all three parties.

The agreement provides \$35 million annually to the B.C. government to provide education to Indian elementary and secondary students in the province.

"As part of the federal government's thrust to return self-government to the Indian communities, it is important to find ways to increase Indian participation in decision-making affecting

their lives," said Crombie. "Clearly, one way is to ensure that Indian parents and Indian communities have some voice in how their children are to be educated".

Crombie indicated that every band he met in the province asked that the Master Tuition Agreement be opened

for discussion. "For that reason, I wrote to the minister of education in B.C., and informed him of my desire to begin discussions immediately for an agreement in the new fiscal year," he explained.

Dr. Owen Anderson, regional director-general of the B.C. Indian

Affairs office, has been asked to meet with B.C. education officials at once. The minister also requested the provincial government to join the federal government in beginning a new era of opportunity and participation by B.C. Indian communities in the field of education.

A First For Native Student Graduates

by Jim Crow

A recent graduate of the Blue Quills Native Education Centre marks the first time in Canada a diploma in social work has been completed entirely off-campus.

Even though the content of the course was altered to meet some of the needs of Native students, the two-year course is similar in many respects to that offered at the

main campus of Grant MacEwan Community College.

The social services worker program is comprised of both practical and theoretical skill courses, as well as a 24-week placement at local agencies. Located near St. Paul, Alberta, Blue Quills is an Indian controlled institution offering high school and secondary programs.

Larry Kaida, direct-

or of post-secondary programs, said Blue Quills' administrators asked Grant MacEwan College for assistance in setting up the off-campus course. As of December 1985, eight of the 13 students who began the course have now graduated.



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624-3757**Notice of Meeting**Blue Ridge
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 1986
Community HallThe Northern Alberta Development Council
holds regular public meetings throughout
Northern Alberta, giving everyone the
opportunity to present briefs on matters
of concern and general information.The Council consists of ten members and
is chaired by Norm Weiss, MLA for Lac
La Biche/McMurray.Groups or individuals interested in making
submissions at the Blue Ridge meeting
should contact Council member Cecil
Jardine in Valleyview at 524-3566 or the
Northern Development Branch in Peace
River at 624-6274.**Alberta**
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Several Native Leaders Want EXPO'86 Boycotted

by Jim Crow

Two Northwest Territories Indian leaders are calling for a Native boycott of Expo'86 in response to the Haida land claim issue.

Stephen Kakfwi, president of the Dene Nation, and Susie Husky, treasurer of the Native Women's Association of Canada, are urging all Status and non-Status Indians to boycott the world exposition in Vancouver this spring and summer, including the NWT pavilion — which contains a sizeable number of Indian artifacts.

Two American congressmen are also involved in the boycott action. And Steve Whitnewy of the U.S. National Parks and Conservation Authority is sending out thousands of letters urging everybody who is still intent on seeing Expo'86 to see the "shameful side" of supernatural B.C.

Bruce Bento, a congressman from Minnesota, and Ohio Democrat John Seiberling have both sent letters to Premier Bill Bennett demanding that logging be stopped on South Moresby.

Closer to home, Husky said she was disgusted with the B.C. government over its refusal to negotiate Indian land claims, and Kakfwi is asking all 10,000 Dene to stay clear of the fair.

Nick Sibbeston, territorial government leader, decided at a recent cabinet meeting to remain as a participant in the fair. "We as a government will not suggest to people to boycott Expo," he remarked.

"We need Expo for economic reasons," explained Sibbeston, "but we plan to register our grave concern with the B.C. government over the arrest of the Haida Indians of Lyell Island".

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A deadly combination

Statistics have proven that carbon monoxide presents a threat to health whenever motor vehicles are in operation.

Approximately two-thirds of carbon monoxide deaths in Alberta in recent years have been related to motor vehicle exhaust fumes. Some of these deaths occurred in closed garages where vehicles were idling or where carbon monoxide gradually accumulated. Other deaths occurred outdoors where fumes accumulated in passenger compartments of vehicles.

"Carbon monoxide is formed by the combustion of fuel in a vehicle's engine," says George Harker, assistant director of operator improvement for the Transportation Safety Branch of Alberta Transportation. "It's a colourless, odourless and tasteless gas that's very poisonous and that can strike without warning, which is why preven-

tive safety measures are so important in avoiding the danger."

Because the density of carbon monoxide is almost the same as that of air, carbon monoxide can accumulate and settle in any enclosed space, such as a garage, an underground parking lot, a tunnel or even the passenger compartment of a moving

tion of fresh air. An open door may not be enough to provide circulation," Harker says.

The wisdom of this advice can be illustrated by three recent tragedies which could easily have been avoided. In the first instance, a couple died in their home after leaving a vehicle running in an

ing are indicated by shortness of breath after moderate exertion, and dizziness or mental confusion. As more gas is absorbed by the lungs and carried into the bloodstream, the victim experiences nausea, throbbing of the heart, loss of muscular control, vomiting and impairment of vision and hearing. In the latter stages, the victim will fall unconscious and a pink tinge will appear in the complexion and at the fingertips. Death may result.

Since it may produce a number of different symptoms, and not everyone will display the same ones, carbon monoxide poisoning can be mistakenly diagnosed by the victim or others. Whenever the above-named symptoms occur, carbon monoxide should be considered a possible cause and emergency action should be taken.

If a passenger in a vehicle, particularly in the back seat, complains of car sickness, it should be assumed that carbon monoxide is the cause. At the first sign of any symptoms the victim will immediately require a large supply of fresh air. Stop the vehicle, open doors and windows and check for possible leaks in the vehicle's exhaust system, floor and trunk. Unconscious victims should be wrapped in blankets and taken to the nearest place with an emergency supply of oxygen, such as a hospital or fire hall. Where breathing has ceased,

continued on Page 12



vehicle. For safety, it is important always to remember that fresh air is needed to disperse carbon monoxide.

"It's a sound rule never to let your car idle in a garage or other enclosed space. Even with a garage door open, exhaust from an idling vehicle can create a serious threat because there has to be circula-

attached, closed garage; carbon monoxide seeped through cracks in the garage and accumulated in the house. In the second, a man who had been working in a closed garage was found dead on the floor next to an idling vehicle. And in the third, a youth who was trying to get warm started a truck in a garage and was asphyxiated in the vehicle's passenger compartment.

Dr. Moira Sanderson, a medical consultant with the Transportation Safety Branch, believes the best way to fight carbon monoxide poisoning is to teach people about the dangers and effects of the gas. Although carbon monoxide itself is hard to detect, Sanderson believes that lives will be saved if people are trained to identify the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Early stages of carbon monoxide poison-

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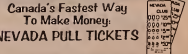
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New Support For Native Health Students

by Gerry Garcia

An organization established to assist Native students pursuing careers in the health field met recently with University of Leth-

bridge administrators.

The Bursary Review Board for the Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program provides funding support to Native students study-

ing in the health and medical field. Christine

Miller, chairman of Native American Studies at the U of L, and a representative on the board, said, "the objective is to encourage and support Native participation in educational opportunities leading to professional

careers in the health field".

"We are interested in providing a learning environment designed to overcome many of the social and cultural barriers that currently inhibit the Native students' educational achievement," Miller added.

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Deadly combination — continued

some form of resuscitation, such as mouth-to-mouth respiration, should be administered, preferably by someone who knows the proper procedure.

Vehicle owners and operators should have their exhaust systems checked regularly from end to end to ensure that the systems are gas-tight. The floor boards and trunk should also be checked for leaks, especially if these areas have been altered or if there is much body rust on the vehicle. Older vehicles are in particular need of attention.

Hatchbacks and station wagons should not be driven with the rear window open, because air turbulence around the moving vehicle creates a low-pressure condition that draws exhaust fumes back into the vehicle. If the rear window must be open to haul long pieces of wood or equipment, then all front windows should

be closed and the ventilation should be operated at it highest setting. Most operator's manuals for station wagons and hatchbacks give specific details on procedures to follow in such circumstances.

Winter is a particularly dangerous time for carbon monoxide poisoning, for this is the time when most drivers roll up windows and let engines idle. And because children and pets are more susceptible than adults to carbon monoxide poisoning, a vehicle in which a child or pet is sitting should never be left idling.

"I think it's time we all made a special effort to stop this insidious gas from taking any more lives. It really won't take much to make Alberta a safer and better place to be. As the old saying goes: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," says Harker.



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Agencies to launch health line service

by Rick Able

Providing accurate health information to the public is an important concern. Now, in Edmonton, a new innovative service will

soon be available to do this.

It will bring free taped health information into homes, schools and offices entirely by telephone. The service is known as The Health

Line. It's being sponsored by five agencies: AADAC, AID Service of Edmonton, Alberta Mental Health Services, Edmonton Board of Health and Edmonton Social Services.

The Health Line begins operation on Thursday, November 28th. Volunteer operators will answer telephone calls from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. every day of the week.

There are more than 300 health tapes that will be offered to the people of this community. The Health Line tape library includes tapes on such subjects as: cancer, diabetes, the heart, alcohol and drug abuse, and sexuality, to

name a few.

It's easy to use The Health Line. A person simply dials 428-4288 and asks the operator for a tape by title or number. The tape is then inserted into semi-automatic playback equipment. The system can simultaneously handle up to 15 different calls. When a tape is completed (each will run 3 to 7 minutes) the call is automatically disconnected. A caller remains completely anonymous and may use The Health Line as often as necessary.

While The Health Line is not designed to replace professional advice, it does inform and calls early attention to the signs of physical, emotional or social problems.

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"Dip-Stick Test" Could Be A Boon To Drivers

by Hy Chapparel

The blood alcohol level of .08 (or 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 milligrams of blood) has been set as the upper limit to which a person can drink and drive before being considered legally impaired. The question on everyone's mind is: how can I know for sure whether

I'm at .08? I don't even know what .08 is!

The number .08 is the limit at which people can be charged by the police for impaired driving. It is at this level that a driver is deemed to be impaired. The measurement was arrived at after a number of tests showed that a person's judgement and

continued on Page 15



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If you would like more information please phone 426-6433.

Many unemployed find the personal and financial crisis of unemployment difficult to manage; People for Employment is an outreach program which tries to help to ease the difficulties by offering varied services to those out of work. In order to fulfill its mandate the following services are provided:

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Are available by providing access to daily and weekly newspapers and publications from government and service agencies. Displays and information are provided on educational and recreational opportunities in Edmonton, as well as referral service to other agencies which may be of support to the unemployed.
3. Financial Crisis

Realizing the financial crisis the unemployed are in, People for Employment has access to the Edmonton Food Bank. The Food Bank program operates on Wednesdays and Fridays of each week, and is meant to assist in emergency situations.
4. Counselling and Fellowship

At People for Employment, Counselling and Fellowship are very important parts of dealing with the ill effects of unemployment. People for Employment tries to promote an atmosphere which relaxes visitors and gives them an opportunity to share their problems and concerns; this may help relieve some of the tensions and depressions that occur during unemployment. The office serves coffee and tea free of charge to its patrons.
5. Volunteer Work

People for Employment also provides opportunities in volunteer work and charitable giving. For the unemployed it gives them the opportunity to undertake some responsibility which may prove beneficial to their sense of self worth. For the unemployed it gives them the opportunity to affect a problem which becomes a major social concern.

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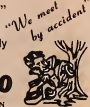
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"Dip Stick" — continued

performance behind the wheel can be significantly altered.

An array of tests and information have been developed for use by the general public, so that any person can judge his or her blood alcohol levels. The problem is, however, that most are neither reliable nor convenient enough for regular and easy use.

Finding an easier way to determine blood alcohol levels have been studied by a number of groups. The blood alcohol chart, for example, was designed to show the effects of a certain number of drinks relative to body weight. The chart has been particularly popular among teens.

A New Tool

The Ontario Addiction Research Foundation's Clinical Institute, along with the University of Toronto, have developed a new mea-

suring device. It's an alcohol "dip-stick"; more precisely, it's a sensitized paper which has chemicals on it that change colour according to the amount of alcohol consumed.

The initially white paper change to pink, and eventually red, as the alcoholic intake increases. There is a colour chart of which the dip-stick can be compared to measure exact levels; you simply dip the paper into your saliva, urine, or semen.

To date, test results indicate that the method is accurate, efficient and easy to use. The dip-stick could be made available to the public within a year or two.

With new test methods such as the dip-stick, the general public would be more able to determine if they are fit to drive. Many believe such a device could be made available at restaurants, bars and gas stations — for free.

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CHIEF, HOWARD MUSTUS

*On behalf of Band Council
Staff and My Band Members
I would like to personally
wish you and yours
A Happy, Healthy,
Peaceful & Prosperous
1986*

A handwritten signature of Chief Howard Mustus in dark ink.

CHIEF, HOWARD MUSTUS
133 ALEXIS INDIAN BAND

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*Chief Patric Yellowknife
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